

## Article One

### DHS Sends Anti-Terror Travel Ban Plan To Trump

Citizens of several foreign countries will be denied visas to enter the United States because their home governments have refused to share information about the identity of prospective visitors, officials say.

A report listing non-cooperative governments — likely including several Islamic governments such as Iran — was forwarded to the White House on Friday, pending a likely final decision and proclamation by the president this weekend. The report also listed a variety of optional visa restrictions which can be imposed on the citizens of the uncooperative of foreign governments.

Officials declined to name the uncooperative governments.

All foreign countries were asked to help U.S. officials confirm the real identity of people seeking to visit or immigrate into the United States, an official said. Nearly all countries cooperated, but some governments showed “total willful non-compliance” the official said during a Friday press conference.

“We need to know who is coming into our country,” said Miles Taylor, a legal advisor to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. “Most countries in the world ended up meeting that baseline” requirement for identifying visitors, he said.

The anti-terror visa process was launched by the President Donald Trump’s March 6 Executive Order, titled “Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States.” Trump confirmed his effort to strengthen security rules following a recent terror attack in London, by tweeting:

15 Sep



**Donald J. Trump**



@realDonaldTrump

Another attack in London by a loser terrorist. These are sick and demented people who were in the sights of Scotland Yard. Must be proactive!

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**Donald J. Trump**



@realDonaldTrump

The travel ban into the United States should be far larger, tougher and more specific-but stupidly, that would not be politically correct!

5:54 AM - Sep 15, 2017

The formal agency process was partly designed to prevent interference by U.S. judges who are working with pro-immigration groups to block the new security rules. Those groups include numerous Islamic political organizations which are seeking to increase the number of Muslim living in the United States.

“The travel ban portions that are about to be changed are only one part of a broader strategy that has perverted our national security protocols and led to rampant religious and racial profiling nationwide,” claimed a pro-Islam legal firm called Muslim Advocates. “Regardless of what happens, it’s absolutely clear that this executive order continues to be driven by religious animus ... this order has been and will continue to be the President’s way of making good on his campaign promise to institute a Muslim ban,” it continued.

Polls show that Americans wish to exclude Islam’s sharia law and terrorism.

If the citizens of foreign countries want to complain about the pending travel curbs, they can press their government to provide the sought-after identification information, an agency official said. “Their recourse is compliance,” he said.

The new identity verification rules are just part of the president’s emerging security provisions, which include more care in awarding visas and immigration approvals to foreign nationals. For example, Section 11 of the Executive Order directs agency officials to prepare and release a report which provides:

information regarding the number of foreign nationals in the United States who have been charged with terrorism-related offenses while in the United States; convicted of terrorism-related offenses while in the United States; or removed from the United States based on terrorism-related activity, affiliation with or provision of material support to a terrorism-related organization, or any other national-security-related reasons;

information regarding the number of foreign nationals in the United States who have been radicalized after entry into the United States and who have engaged in terrorism-related acts, or who have provided material support to terrorism-related organizations in countries that pose a threat to the United States;

information regarding the number and types of acts of gender-based violence against women, including so-called “honor killings,” in the United States by foreign nationals; and any other information relevant to public safety and security as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney General, including information on the immigration status of foreign nationals charged with major offenses.

The report will be released in the “not too distant future,” an official said.

## **Article Two**

### **Around the World and the U.S., New Travel Ban Draws Anger, Applause and Shrugs**

When President Trump announced the latest and most far-reaching version of his travel ban on Sunday, citing threats to national security posed by letting citizens of specific countries into the country, the White House said it had come after exhaustive planning. It was meant to prevent the confusion and chaos that his first

travel ban created at airports, colleges and technology companies in the United States and at refugee camps around the world back in January.

A White House official said the new policy was more narrowly targeted than its precursor, which was swiftly blocked by the courts. But immigrant and diaspora communities from the affected countries once again reacted with dismay, and refugee advocates denounced the new decree as more of the same.

“This is still a Muslim ban,” Becca Heller, the director of the International Refugee Assistance Project, said in a statement.

The first travel ban was blocked by federal judges because it was perceived to discriminate against Muslims; the Trump administration argued it was a security measure designed to thwart terrorism. A revised version of that ban expired on Sunday.

The new third version, which is to take effect on Oct. 18, adds Chad, North Korea and Venezuela to the list of affected countries and drops Sudan. (The other affected countries are Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen and Somalia.)

Different restrictions were imposed on each of the three additions, depending on the threat they were deemed to pose. For example, for Venezuela the ban applies only to visits by certain government officials and their families, while Somalis are barred from emigrating to the United States but not from visiting.

Chad, an Ally Against Militants, Asks, “Why Us?”

The addition of Chad to Mr. Trump’s travel ban took that country’s government by surprise and bewildered analysts of Central Africa.

With a mixed population of Muslims and Christians, Chad has been a longtime American ally in fighting Islamist militants in the region, including offshoots of Al Qaeda and Boko Haram, and its troops took part in a French-led effort to root out Islamist militants from parts of Mali in 2013.

In a statement, the government expressed “incomprehension in the face of the official reasons for this decision, which contrasts with Chad’s constant efforts and commitments in the fight against terrorism.” It called on President Trump to rethink the decision, “which has seriously affected the image of Chad and the good relations maintained by the two countries.”

In a report on Chad last year, the State Department said that few Chadians join terrorist groups, and that the country had tightened its borders to impede the movements of militants, but that a financial crisis kept the country from consistently paying police and military salaries, which presented some risk.

Matthew Page, who was the State Department’s expert in the region until last year, said that the travel ban for Chad seemed to be “a knee-jerk move, rather than a carefully considered decision.”

Experts said there were many steps Chad could take in response that would have a negative impact on the United States, including reducing security protection for employees of the large American embassy. Also at stake are oil exploration plans from companies like Exxon Mobil.

“This is a very draconian move that could put Americans in harm’s way,” Mr. Page said. “There is no incentive to labeling Chadians soft on terrorism, which they definitely are not.”

Human rights activists also expressed outrage.

"This makes no sense at all, even from a Trumpian standpoint," said Reed Brody, a lawyer for Human Rights Watch who has worked extensively in Chad.

Victims of a former Chadian president, Hissène Habré, who is accused of torturing and murdering opponents during his rule in the 1980s, regularly travel to the United States to collect humanitarian awards. "Think of all the courageous and dedicated activists who will now be barred from the U.S.," Mr. Brody said.

## **Article Three**

### **Trump Administration Revises Travel Ban To Expand Beyond Muslim-Majority Countries**

The Trump administration is updating its travel ban, just hours before it was set to expire. In a proclamation signed by President Trump on Sunday, the travel restrictions now include eight countries, a couple of which are not majority-Muslim, as had been the case with all the nations in the original ban.

Five countries in the previous ban remain under restriction: Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen and Somalia. Chad, North Korea and Venezuela have been added. The latter two are the first nations included in a version of the travel ban that do not have majority-Muslim populations, which has been a key point in litigation challenging the ban as discriminatory based on religion.

Sudan has been dropped from the order. Restrictions for Somalia will be relaxed for non-immigrant visitors, and restrictions for Iran will be relaxed for students and other exchange visitors.

The new restrictions on Chad and North Korea are a broad ban on nationals from those countries entering the U.S. For Venezuela, restrictions apply to government officials and their immediate family.

These changes are set to take effect on Oct. 18, though the restrictions on Sudan will be lifted immediately, as a result of security baselines defined by the administration.

The White House said in a statement, "The President has also determined that while Iraq did not meet the baseline, entry restrictions are not warranted under the September 24 proclamation."

"Following an extensive review by the Department of Homeland Security, we are taking action today to protect the safety and security of the American people by establishing a minimum security baseline for entry into the United States," President Trump said in the statement. "We cannot afford to continue the failed policies of the past, which present an unacceptable danger to our country. My highest obligation is to ensure the safety and security of the American people, and in issuing this new travel order, I am fulfilling that sacred obligation."

The White House also hailed the proclamation as "aimed at creating — for the first time in history — minimum requirements for international cooperation to support visa and immigration vetting and adjudications for individuals seeking entry to the United States."

There are some exceptions for nationals from the eight countries who have "bona fide" connections to the U.S., though narrower than what was ordered by the Supreme Court in its temporary ruling on the travel ban. The high court will hear arguments on the merits of the travel ban on Oct. 10.

The original travel ban was signed by Trump during his first week in office and caused chaos at airports as some nationals from the seven majority-Muslim countries on the original list were caught up in the ban mid-transit. Protests also broke out at many airports.

The original countries were Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. The first order was put on hold by a federal judge in Washington State, and that ruling was backed by an appeals court.

A second order was signed to revise the original, allowing in people from targeted countries who already held green cards and valid visas. Iraq was also removed from the ban.

A blanket ban on all refugee entry into the U.S., except for those with close family already in the country. That portion expires on Oct. 24.